

because really to have—to get one of the homes that are coming up, you need to have an income. But right now we're living on—well, here on this street, I can safely say about 85 percent of us, here on this street alone, are living on Social Security, SSI, and welfare. That's one income once a month. And that's what we use.

My boys, as you have seen, have applied for jobs. They have applications all over. I've even got one boy that went to the Service. We've been using his veteran's benefits. It's hard to get a job here because there isn't one. When you get a job here, you hang onto it, because you get an income. Money every 2 weeks is better than money once a month.

**President Salway.** And that causes problems. Everybody struggles for those very, very minimum jobs you have. So it causes a lot of conflicts.

**President Clinton.** Over the jobs?

**President Salway.** Over the jobs. So few.

NOTE: The discussion began at approximately 10 a.m. outside the home of Geraldine Blue Bird during a walking tour of the Igloo Housing neighborhood. The discussion participants included President Harold D. Salway of the Oglala Sioux Tribe; and Franklin D. Raines, chairman and chief executive officer, Fannie Mae. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a partial transcript of this discussion. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this discussion.

### Exchange With Reporters at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

July 7, 1999

**Q.** Mr. President, what did you learn from the Igloo neighborhood this morning?

**The President.** Well, the woman who was speaking with me, Geraldine—some of you had to leave before she talked—there are 11 people living in her house and 17 members of her family living in the trailer next door connected to her house, 28 people there with five bedrooms between them.

And she talked about how hard it was with no jobs to make ends meet, and how she had to buy all the children's school clothes on installment, on layaway. And what she did was she had to find money for the children who were on the cross-country team—just to be able to do the most basic things in life.

And she said, yes, they did need new housing, but the most important thing they needed was a way to make a living. Keep in mind—this is unbelievable—this country has had an unemployment rate of under 5 percent for 2 years; the unemployment rate here is almost 75 percent. We have to find a way not only to fix this, the very difficult housing circumstances, but to get them jobs.

We'll talk more about it.

NOTE: The exchange began at approximately 10:30 a.m. at a new reservation housing complex. In his remarks, the President referred to Geraldine Blue Bird, resident, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

### Remarks to the Community at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

July 7, 1999

Thank you very much. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you to all of you here from Pine Ridge and all the other tribal leaders who are here for HUD's Shared Vision Conference. I am profoundly honored to be in Pine Ridge and in the Lakota Nation. In fact, to try to demonstrate my appreciation and respect, I would like to try—to try to say something in Lakota. *Mitakuye oyasin*. My neighbors, my friends, we are all related.

Consider those who have come here today to join hands with you, along with Secretary Cuomo, Secretary Glickman, your great congressional delegation, our Democratic leader Tom Daschle in the United States Senate and Senator Johnson, Congressman Thune. You don't know this, but we have Members of Congress from all over America who have some here to express their support and their commitment to join you in building a better tomorrow: Congressman Ed Pastor from Arizona; Congressman Dale Kildee from the State of Michigan; Congressman Jim Clyburn from South Carolina; and Congressman Paul Kanjorski from Pennsylvania, he has come all the way from Pennsylvania to be here.

I want to thank the other people from the administration, especially Assistant Secretary of the Interior Kevin Gover and Lynn Cutler in the White House, who work with all of